

**1 JULY 1999**



**AIR FORCE SAFETY CENTER**

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OPR: HQ USAF/SEPP  
(Mr. E. Dwayne Burks, GM-15)  
Supersedes AFMD 44, 1 October 1995.

Certified by: HQ USAF/SE  
(Maj Gen Francis C. Gideon, Jr.)  
Pages: 3  
Distribution: F

**SUMMARY OF REVISIONS**

**This document is revised to reflect the current organization designation and requirements.**

Administrative changes have been made to update this mission directive in electronic format.

**1. Mission.** The Air Force Safety Center (AFSC) oversees and assists commanders in implementing the Air Force's mishap prevention (i.e., aviation, ground, explosives, missile, nuclear, space, and system safety) and operational risk management programs. The overall purpose of these programs is to prevent the unnecessary loss of personnel, systems, facilities, equipment, and resources, and to enhance the capability to successfully complete military missions. Operational risk management (ORM) and mishap prevention are accomplished by identifying risks and mitigating them to the maximum extent possible. AFSC maintains mishap aircraft animation capabilities to assist in mishap investigation and determination of cause factors. AFSC is the focal point for mishap prevention education and media, and provides a one-of-a-kind, hands-on training site for safety mishap investigators, i.e., USAF Crash Laboratory. AFSC also provides the focal point for the development and evaluation of all safety, Air Force occupational safety and health (AFOSH) and nuclear surety standards and procedures. This organization is a field operating agency (FOA).

**2. Command.** The AFSC Commander:

2.1. Is dual-hatted, commanding the Air Force Safety Center, as well as being the Air Force Chief of Safety (AF/SE) directly subordinate to the Chief of Staff (CSAF).

2.2. Interacts and communicates directly with all major commands (MAJCOM), direct reporting units (DRU), and FOAs, as well as all official government and DoD agencies on safety tasks for which HQ AFSC has assigned responsibility.

**3. Responsibilities.** AFSC:

- 3.1. Implements Air Force safety (aviation, ground, explosives, missile, nuclear, space, and system), ORM, and nuclear surety plans and programs by assisting commanders at all levels in preserving human and material resources while accomplishing their mission.
- 3.2. Develops and manages the USAF Mishap Prevention, Operational Risk Management, Nuclear Surety, and Bird/Wildlife Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) programs.
- 3.3. Evaluates the effectiveness and efficiency of all Air Force safety programs.
- 3.4. Formulates intervention strategies and makes appropriate recommendations to key decision-makers to eliminate or mitigate risks, based on scientific research, cost benefit analyses, and risk assessments.
- 3.5. Plans and evaluates mishap prevention programs in all safety and nuclear surety disciplines.
- 3.6. Participates in mishap investigations, provides technical assistance to safety boards, completes Memorandums of Final Evaluation (MOFE), and tracks corrective actions through completion.
- 3.7. Monitors and evaluates Air Force Occupational Safety programs to comply with the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) and coordinates on health matters covered by the Act. Develops and maintains AFOSH standards.
- 3.8. Chairs USAF Non-Nuclear Munitions Safety Board and USAF Nuclear Weapons System Safety Group (NWSSG), and provides both a primary and an alternate Air Force voting member for the DoD Explosive Safety Board (DDESB).
- 3.9. Conducts Air Force nuclear surety and radiological safety surveys, safety studies, and investigations.
- 3.10. Manages the Air Force NWSSG process including operational safety reviews and nuclear weapon system safety studies.
- 3.11. Directs and monitors the USAF Nuclear Safety Certification Program.
- 3.12. Receives, reviews, and maintains official reports of Air Force mishaps, and conducts operations research and epidemiological studies on how to identify, predict, and prevent potential mishaps and mishap causes.
- 3.13. Examines aerospace and nuclear systems from concept through retirement ensuring safety considerations are included in design, manufacture, maintenance, operations, and retirement.
- 3.14. Manages Air Force mishap prevention education and media information flow through safety education, USAF Crash Laboratory training, recurring magazine publications, and safety videos.
- 3.15. Administers Air Force-level safety councils, committees, and conferences and represents the Air Force Chief of Safety at selected international, national, government, DoD, and USAF meetings of safety and accident prevention organizations.
- 3.16. Responds to security declassification, Congressional, and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests and taskings, ensuring no compromise occurs to classified or limited-use information.
- 3.17. Serves as the DoD representative on the Interagency Nuclear Safety Review Panel (INSRP) as outlined in Presidential Directive NSC-25, *Scientific or Technological Experiments with Possible Large-Scale Adverse Environmental Effects and Launch of Nuclear Systems into Space*.

- 3.18. Serves as the Air Force review and clearinghouse for Air Force Secretarial waivers and exemptions to Department of Defense explosive safety standards.
- 3.19. Manages and administers the USAF Safety Awards Program.
- 3.20. Manages and directs the USAF Nuclear Surety Program.
- 3.21. Serves as secretariat for Air Force-level mishap prevention program councils, committees, and conferences.
- 3.22. Develops and maintains capabilities and necessary facilities to perform unique mishap investigation functions, such as flight data recorder analyses, crash-damaged media reconstruction, fire pattern analyses, etc.
- 3.23. Manages the USAF Hazard Abatement Program.
- 3.24. Develops and implements traffic and off-duty recreational safety programs and seasonal mishap prevention campaigns.
- 3.25. Interacts and interfaces with Office of the Chief of Safety staff (i.e., HQ USAF/SEP/SER/SEI) on policy formulation and responses to higher headquarters issues and joint service matters.

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Vice Chief of Staff